

REPORT TO THE NH CITIZENS COMMISSION ON THE STATE COURTS

12/18/06

IV. Family Court

Recommendation

Schedule

Action by Judicial Branch

		<u>FY 2008</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	<u>FY 2013</u>	
1	Support state wide expansion of the Family Division.	\$264,096	\$277,302	*	*	*	*	The Judicial Branch recommended a Family Division expansion plan to the legislature in calendar year 2005; the legislature responded with the enactment of RSA 490-D which calls for expansion of all Family Division into all ten New Hampshire counties. Additional administrative positions are needed.
2	Family Division should research and experiment with ADR and expand availability and use of ADR.	*	*	*	*	*	*	The Family Division has reviewed and improved its use of Certified Marital Mediators. Administrators continue to monitor ADR for the purpose of recommending improvements and expansion.
3	Critically review Guardian Ad Litem use.							The legislature transferred to the Guardian Ad Litem Board responsibility for Guardian Ad Litem issues. The Judicial Branch is well represented on the Board and judges and administrators have offered to support the Board in its consideration of this recommendation.
4	Ensure that all Guardians Ad Litem receive comprehensive training and supervision.							See Above.
5	Examine the cost of services provided by Guardians Ad Litem.							See Above.
6	Require that all Guardians Ad Litem be certified.							See Above.
7	Expand regulatory authority and funding for the GAL Board.							See Above.
8	Develop a state funded GAL system like the public defender or contract attorney systems.							See Above.

* = No new funds requested.